Conditions for Postal Employees treating at par with regular employees

1486. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the conditions prescribed for each category of Postal employees to be treated at par with other regular employees in this regard; if there are none, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether payment of pro rata wages to E. D. employees was committed by Government in the meeting held with the service Union on 6th March, 1990, if so, what is the progress in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) There are three categories of employees in the Department of Posts. These are —

(1) Extra departmental
(2) Casual
(3) Regular

Extra departmental employees are paid at prescribed rates according to the formula. Casual employees are paid on daily basis at the rate of the minimum of the time scale of the corresponding regular employee like Group 'D or postman. Extra departmental employees and casual employees are treated at par with regular employees when they fulfil the required service limit and qualification condition and pass the prescribed departmental test. On promotion as regular Group D or regular postman, an extra departmental employee/casual employee is eligible to all the benefits available to a regular employee.

(b) In the meeting held on the 6th of March 1989 the staff representative were informed that the proposal to pay prorata wages to EDAs was being considered. The matter is now under examination in consultation with the Ministry of Finance & Deptt. of Personnel etc. as heavy financial burden on the exchequer is involved.

English-knowing persons in India

1487. SHRIMATI MANORA-MA PANDEY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of English-knowing persons in India;

(b) the percentage of non-English knowing persons in India;

(c) whether Government propose to promote the Indian Languages and to instruct the various State Governments to correspond with the Centre in their State languages, or in the Rashtra Bhasha instead of English; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) Based on the the question (language mainly spoken in the household) of Household Schedule, the percentage of speakers of English in India, as per 1981 census, was 0. 04. The percentage of population who returned English as the mother tongue was 0. 03 in both 1971 and 1981 censuses. The population who returned English as the mother tongue and those who returned English as the second language in addition to mother tongue together constituted 4. 58% of the population in 1971 census.

(c) and (d) While the Government has many schemes for development of Indian languages, like training of languages teachers, assistance to State Granth Academies and selected universitites for publication of university level text

books, financial assistance to voluntary organisations engaged in development, promotion and propagation of Indian languages etc. (he use of languages for purposes of communication between the Union and the States is regulated as per provisions of Article 346 of the Constitution and the Official Languages Act, 1963. According to which the State Governments can correspond with the Central Government either in Hindi or in English language.

Area volunteers in local self-government of Delhi Administration

1488. MISSSAROJ KHAPAR-DE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the services of about 400 Area Volun teers attached to the Urban Basic Service of the Local Self-Govern-ment of Delhi Administration have been terminated;

(b) whether it is also a fact that those volunteers were doing very useful work as area volunteers in the field of adult education programme and diarrhoea control missions in the jhuggi clusters of Delhi; and

(c) if so, the reasons for termi nating their services ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) 400 Area Volunteers were engaged under Urban Basic Services Scheme in April, 1989 for three months. They, however, continued to work till 2-5-90 for conducting immunisation campaign etc.

Traffic signals in the Capital

1489. DR. RATNAKAR PAN-DEY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of traffic signals in the Capital are out of order;

(b) what are the reasons that M/s Keltron or the traffic police do not *suo moutto* repair traffic sig nals;

(c) whether it is a fact that the traffic police have not advertised any telephone numbers to facilitate lodging of complaints in this regard by citizens; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what is the amount presently paid to M/s Keltron for maintenance of traffic signals in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) No, Sir. However, some signals become inoperative due to mechanical failure or low voltage.

(b) Faulty traffic signals are repaired as soon as these come to the notice of M/s. Keltron /Delhi Police.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) During 1989-90, Rs. 12, 85, 200/- were paid to M/s. Keltron.

Delhi Gate Electronic Telephone Exchange

1490. DR. RATNAKARPAN-DEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is th.; numbor of telephone connections in the Delhi Gate Telephone Exchange of the Capital that have not been connected to the Electronic Exchange commissioned recently;

(b) what are the reasons for non-conversion of the above telephone numbers as per schedule i. e. April 1990; and